



Numismatists of Wisconsin

# **N.O.W. News**

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Vol. 47 No. 3

Fall 2009



## **Autumn Fires**

**Sing a Song of Seasons!  
Something bright in all!**

**Flowers in the Summer,  
Fires in the Fall!**

Robert Lewis Stevenson

### **Numismatists of Wisconsin**

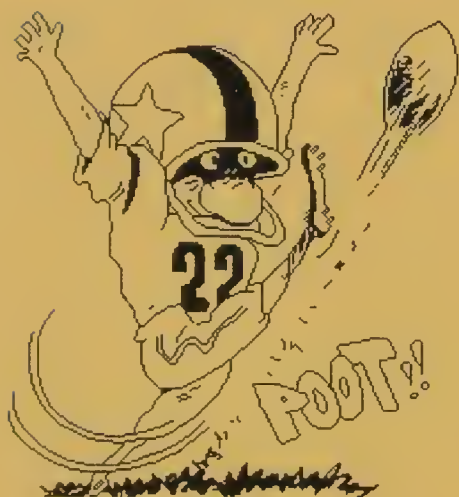
is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

Numismatists of Wisconsin holds Life Memberships in the American Numismatic Association and Central States Numismatic Society.

## **Fall 2009**



|                                                    |       |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| President's Message .....                          | 3     |
| ANA News .....                                     | 4     |
| Coin Club News.....                                | 5-6   |
| BookNook.....                                      | 6     |
| What's New? .....                                  | 9-11  |
| American Samoa & Virgin Islands Quarters.....      | 12-13 |
| President Polk \$1 coin & Sara Polk \$10 gold..... | 14-15 |
| Coin Club Meetings.....                            | 31    |
| NOW Officers & Application .....                   | 33    |
| Show Calendar.....                                 | 34-35 |

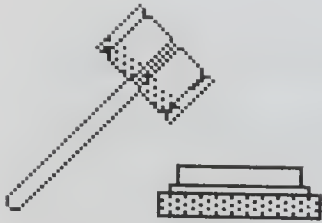
## **Articles**

|                                                                |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Surprise Windfall in Pages of Used Book .....                  | 17-18 |
| Baseball and Numismatics converge (J. Reichenberger) .....     | 18-22 |
| The California Midwinter Expo Short & Sweet (G. Johnson) ..... | 23-24 |
| The Handshake (M. Turrini) .....                               | 25-26 |
| Cigar Stand (G. Johnson) .....                                 | 27-28 |
| Halloween History .....                                        | 28-30 |

### **NOW News Deadlines**

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1

website [www.numismatistsofwisconsin.org](http://www.numismatistsofwisconsin.org)



## President's Message

### **NOW Board Members**

**Mark Your Calendars**

**The next NOW Board meeting  
will be held at 11:00 a.m.  
October 24th.**

**Sheboygan Coin Show  
Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall  
Sheboygan Falls**

*Thad*



## Thief Discovered in Marinette, WI

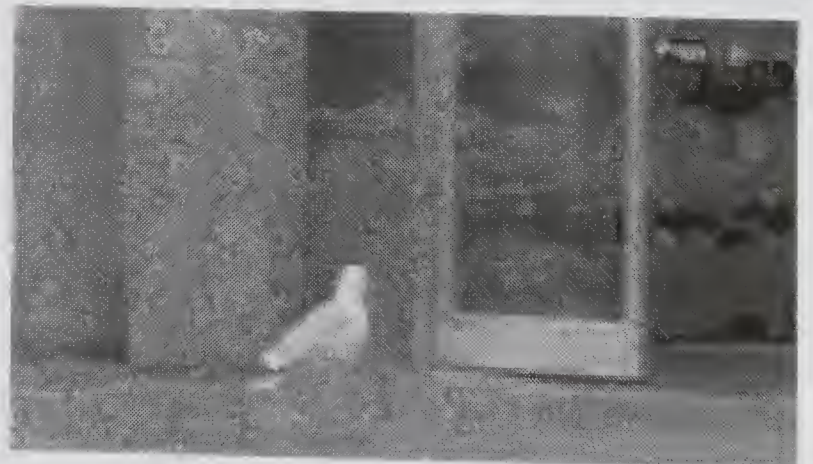
A seagull in Marinette, Wisconsin has developed the habit of stealing Doritos from a neighborhood convenience store.

The seagull waits until the Manager isn't looking, and then walks into the store and grabs a snack-size bag of cheese Doritos. Once outside, the bag gets ripped open and shared with other birds.

The seagull's shoplifting started earlier this month when he first swooped into the store in Marinette, and helped himself to a bag of Doritos. Since then, he's become a regular -- and he always takes the same kind of chips.

The Manager thinks it's great because people are coming to watch the feathered thief make its daily grab and run... and that's good for business, especially since customers have begun paying for the gull's stolen bags of Doritos because they think it's so funny.

The Manager, however, did say "This is Wisconsin, and if that seagull starts to grab a 6-pac to go along with the Doritos, then I may have to put a stop to it."





## **2009 ANA Board Installed at World's Fair of Money in Las Angeles**

In an announcement made by Larry Shepherd, ANA Executive Director, Clifford Mishler was elected the 56th President of the American Numismatic Association. Mishler received 5,047 votes compared with 3,213 for past ANA Vice President, Patricia Jagger Finner.

Thomas Hallenbeck, who ran unopposed, was elected Vice President. Incumbents Chester Krause, Joseph Boling, Walter Ostromecki Jr. and Wendell Wolka were re-elected along with Board newcomers Scott Rottinghaus, J.P. Martin and Jeff Garrett.

The new officers were installed during the annual ANA Awards banquet on August 8th at the World's Fair of Money.

Clifford Mishler serves as a governor for Numismatists of Wisconsin. Chet Krause holds the honorary membership #1 of Numismatists of Wisconsin and served as NOW's first President from 1962-1964.

The American Numismatic Association helps its 32,000 members and the public discover and explore the world of money through their education and outreach programs.

\* \* \*

## **To Charge or Not To Charge...**

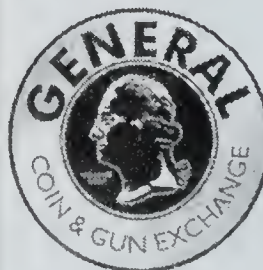
Numismatic News Editor, Dave Harper, asked his reader's to comment on the question "Is it a good idea for the ANA to charge \$6 a day to nonmembers attending the Las Angeles Convention"? Here are a few of the responses he received:

- Charging a \$6 admission discourages new collectors from coming to larger shows, especially in today's economy.
- A bourse chairman from Missouri Numismatic Society boasted of having a record number of people attending their show -- the reason: free admission and free parking. Dealers are happy when attendance increases.
- The charge for adults should be kept minimal (\$1-\$3), but admission should be FREE to youth under 18, scouts, etc.
- The hobby that relies on a constant influx of new collectors to keep coins in demand loses ultimately. The risks outweigh the rewards.

The general consensus was that most were opposed to a \$6 admission charge.

\* \* \*

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## Origin of the Nicolet Coin Club

by Tom Fruit #15

The first meeting of the Nicolet Coin Club was held at the YMCA on Jefferson Street in downtown Green Bay on Thursday, October 9, 1958.

Attending that first meeting were Paul Kappel, Tom Fruit, Wally Enoch, John Martinkovic (a member of the Green Bay Packers), Ervin Klapper, Al Abhold, Don and Betty Erickson, Ramona Verstoppen, Ray Grover and Leo VanDonsel.

The club's first acting president was Tom Fruit. (Paul Kappel just celebrated his 90th birthday).

## Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Members and guests had an enjoyable and educational summer excursion last month to the Civil War Museum and the neighboring Historical Museum. Both of these facilities are located near downtown Kenosha. Also nearby is a streetcar/trolley bus upon which participants relaxed and took in the scenes of the area.

Other coin clubs may want to schedule a similar outing this fall. The museums are open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 for members and guests and the trolley ride costs a nominal 50¢ per ride.

\* \* \*

## Barron County Coin Club

You probably won't see any ghosts or goblins if you stop by the October 31st coin show held at the Cedar Mall in Rice Lake. Collectors will no doubt have plenty of numismatic "treats" to choose from. Show hours are 9-4 p.m.

## Madison Coin Club

On August 10th club members and their families met at Garner Park in Madison for their annual picnic. Nice weather (not too hot and no rain) and a variety of good food.

After everyone ate their fill, we had our usual game of Bingo with most families winning a numismatic prize. The prizes were donated by Jim Essence of Jim's Coins. (Thank you Jim).

Pictures taken at the event are on the following page.

Plans for the September meeting will include a "Buy-Sell-Trade" session.

\* \* \*



**Plan to attend the  
Fall Coin Shows**



## *Madison Coin Club Picnic*



Son, Walt, is the coin collector in the family, but mom (Becky Dillard) is the maker of this special cake which has an edible picture of the 1901 \$10 "Bison" Legal Tender Note.

The "Bison" bill is one of America's most sought after banknotes. It was issued in 1901 and features a buffalo between portraits of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in anticipation of the 100th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

Few of these \$10 bills were issued in the early 20th century and just a fraction have survived in collectible condition.



RuthAnn Phillips is an expert on organizing the annual picnic



BINGO after all that good food.  
(Prizes were donated by Jim's Coins)



# Book Nook

## **A Wagon, the World, a Nickel**

(A Memoir by Ruby Cavanaugh Koerper)

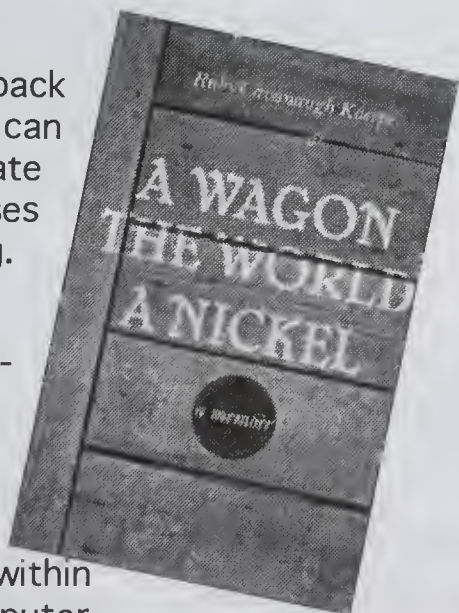
Travel down Memory Lane with author Ruby Cavanaugh Koerper as she navigates the hardships of life in her memoir, "A Wagon, the World, a Nickel". Readers will both laugh and cry as they follow Ruby across the globe and witness her antics and the convoluted pieces of her life.

The nickel?? Ruby recalls: "In 1932 a man asked my mom to save a 1913 nickel for him. 'It's our Game' -- the nickel had belonged to his deceased mother and when he returned, he promised to give mom \$50 for helping. She put it in her trunk for safe keeping. Later we wondered -- was he really hiding the nickel?"

A Wagon, the World, a Nickel will fascinate readers interested in travel as well as those merely looking for an old-fashioned, well-told story that includes a little intrigue and mystery.

This 244 page paperback sells for \$14.99 and can be purchased from Tate Publishing & Enterprises -- [www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore](http://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore).

This book is also available for \$8.99 as an eBook download. Instead of receiving a physical paper book, you will be reading it within minutes on your computer.



## **Grading Coin by Photographs**

An action guide for the collector and investor by Q. David Bowers

Bowers thoroughly addresses the grading of every series in U.S. coinage – and manages to interweave both the idiosyncrasies and the history of each design.

Step-by-step grading instructions for every U.S. coin from half cents to double eagles. The evolution of grading standards is explained as well as how to "read" a coin's surfaces, expert techniques, smart buying tips, aspects of today's marketplace and more. Hundreds of high resolution color photos will help you grade your entire collection. This 360 page spiral bound guide sells for \$14.99.

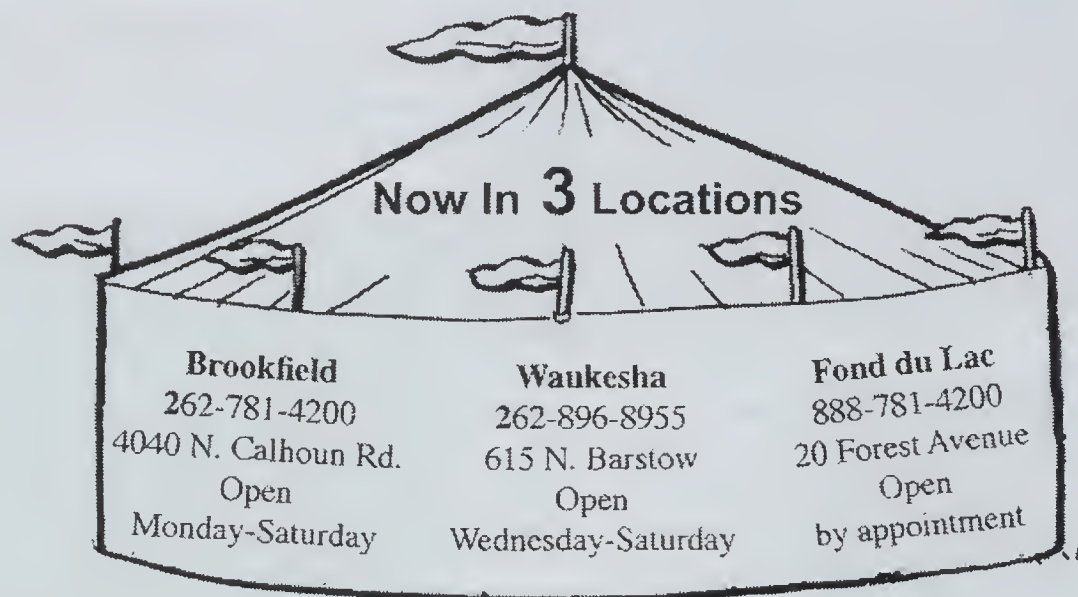
## **New Paper-Money Guide Book Explores a Popular Hobby**

Hobby legend, Kenneth Bressett, covers large-size, small-size and fractional paper money in the newly revised and updated 4<sup>th</sup> edition of United States Currency. Now for the first time, this popular book includes full-color illustrations.

United States Currency is a perennial favorite among hobbyists. It appeals especially to beginning and intermediate collectors, but its solid and engaging numismatic text (written by the long-time editor of the Guide Book of United States Coins is valuable for long-time collectors and dealers as well.

"As you look through the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of United States Currency" says Bowers in the book's forward, "contemplate the designs and the values of notes in different grades, and perhaps consider adding paper money to your collecting interests. If you are already involved in the hobby, then this book is a handy update on new issues and market values. If you simply have some old bank notes and want to know if they're rare and valuable, you can look them up here and learn more about them. This 352 page soft cover, full color edition is available online, in bookstores nationwide and from hobby dealers.

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## **National Archives Obtains Lincoln Letter to Treasury Secretary about fired U.S. Mint Official**

[Associated Press article  
submitted by Leon Saryan]

Last May, the National Archives added to its collection a short letter written by President Abraham Lincoln to help an ousted U.S. Mint director who was the son-in-law of a Republican senator.

In the new letter, Lincoln asked his treasury secretary, Salmon Chase, to allow the fired head of the U.S. Mint in San Francisco, Robert Stevens, to review the charges that led to his removal. Lincoln had appointed Stevens as a favor to Oregon Sen. Edward Baker, the ousted director's father-in-law.

"This letter, while seemingly routine, is an extremely important key to understanding President Lincoln's relationship with Sen. Baker," said James Hastings, director of access programs at the archives. "It shows his interest even in the midst of the Civil War in political issues on the West Coast."

The letter is written on yellowed stationery simply marked Executive Mansion, Washington, with a dashed line where the date – Nov. 14, 1863 – was filled in by hand. This was 5 days before Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg

Address. The archives says it was torn years earlier from a bound volume of Chase's correspondence with government officials. The removal occurred before the book of letters was inducted into the archives. Specialists at the archives will reattach the letter to the place it was torn from the book.

"We will have this piece of the puzzle now where it belongs and scholars can now interpret its importance to this critical period." Hastings said.

The letter was donated to the National Archives by Lawrence Cutler, a private collector from Scottsdale, Arizona.

Cutler bought the letter at auction about 3 years ago and was contacted the following year by the Archives, which believed the letter belonged in its custody. He said he waited until Lincoln's bicentennial to donate the letter, but declined to say how much he paid for it.

\* \* \*

## **United States Mint Expands Its Online Subscription Program**

The United States Mint announced in July that it was adding four current products to its Online Subscription Program. Customers can sign up to receive automatic shipments of the Native American \$1 Coin Roll (P&D), Kennedy Half-Dollar Two-Roll Set, Kennedy Half-Dollar 200-Coin Bag and the U.S. Mint Presidential \$1 Coin Uncirculated Set.

The Mint has streamlined the process for enrolling in the Online Subscription Program. Customers can enter a single figure to indicate the number of units for each subscription item they want to receive, as opposed to entering multiple groupings of product units to reach the desired quantity. The Mint will continue to send 30-day notifications to customers before

charging the next subscription item to their credit card. Customer credit cards will be charged when subscription items are shipped.

This is a convenient way for coin collectors to acquire select products as they become available. Customers may enroll in the program at the Mint's secure site [www.usmint.gov/catalog](http://www.usmint.gov/catalog) or by calling 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468).

\* \* \*

## The Vienna Philharmonic



The world famous Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra was the inspiration for this coin.

A harmonious design of musical

instruments from the Orchestra adorn the reverse side of the coin. The great organ in the Golden Hall in Vienna's Musikverein is pictured on the obverse side of the coin.

Also featured on this side are the weight, fineness and year of issue. Face value is indicated in Austrian Schilling in mintings prior to December 31, 2001, and Euro afterwards.

The gold Vienna Philharmonics are backed by the government of Austria and minted at the historic Austrian Mint in Vienna, internationally famous for producing exceptional gold coins for more than 800 years.

The Philharmonic is one of the most gorgeous and coveted



of all modern gold bullion coins. The world's best selling Gold coin in 1992, 1995, 1996, the Philharmonic is struck in 999.9 fine gold. The Northwest Territorial Mint has a limited number of these coins. Philharmonics are available in the 1 Troy Ounce size. Collectors can order by calling 800-344-6468 Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

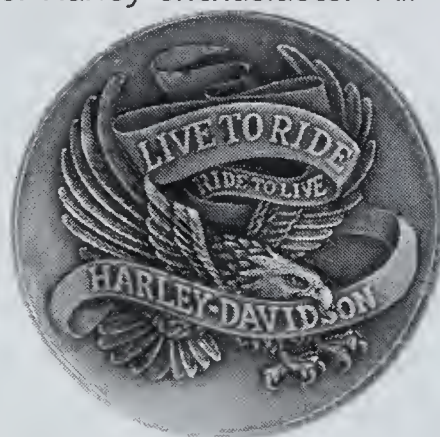
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## Authentic Harley Coins

The Northwest Territorial Mint is proud to bring an array of sought-after Harley coins that will be the envy of your fellow riders -- or great gifts for Harley enthusiasts. All products and designs are created and manufactured in the U.S.A. under license from the Harley-Davidson Motor Company.

Browse their complete collection of Harley products at [www.harleycoins.com](http://www.harleycoins.com).

\* \* \*



## Drug Money On Bills

[WI State Newspaper /Associated Press}

Chances are there's cocaine in your wallet. Researchers looked at 234 banknotes from 17 cities in the U.S. and found 90% had small traces of the illegal drug.

Bills from larger cities, such as Baltimore, Boston and Detroit, were among those with the highest average cocaine levels. Salt Lake City had the lowest.

The bits of cocaine on most bills were so small consumers shouldn't have health or legal concerns. Money can become contaminated with cocaine during drug deals or when users snort the substance through rolled bills. It can then spread to other cash when banks process money.



## Lincoln 1¢

### Professional Life in Illinois

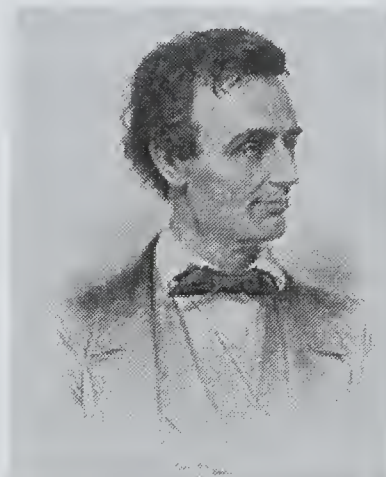
The story of the Lincoln 1¢ coin is depicted into 4 “Aspects” of Lincoln’s life. This is the 3rd Aspect.

In 1830, Thomas Lincoln decided to move his family to Illinois, where he had relatives and where the soil was rich and productive. In 1831 when his father relocated the family to another new homestead, 22-year old Lincoln struck out on his own, canoeing down the Sangamon River to the village of New Salem in Sangamon County. Lincoln’s formal education consisted of about 18 months of schooling, but he was largely self-educated and an avid reader.

Early on, Abraham took a variety of jobs, including piloting a steamboat, but he was beginning to develop a serious interest in politics. In 1834, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly, and began studying the law in earnest. In September 1836, he received a law license and embarked on the career that would propel him to the White House.

In April 1837, Abe settled in the new Illinois state capital in Springfield. Here, he met and married Mary Todd on November 4, 1842. Mary was from a prominent slave-owning family from Kentucky and had a hard time adjusting to her new life because she was used to having slaves perform most of the chores all of her life. Mary was also used to having money and struggled with the adjustment to relative poverty.

The couple had four sons. Their first child, Robert Todd Lincoln, was born in August 1843 and was the only child to survive into adulthood.



Lincoln continued to make a name for himself and at the age 23 began his political career. In 1846 he won election to the U.S. House of Representatives as a member of the Whig Party.

Illinois Senator Stephen Douglas was up for reelection in 1856, and in June the state Republican convention nominated Lincoln for the seat. The series of famous Lincoln-Douglas debates took place that fall, and while he did not win the seat, Lincoln’s logic, moral fervor, elegant language and debating skills transformed him into a national figure. At the 1860 Republican convention, he secured the nomination for President and was elected that fall.

The approved reverse design for Aspect three representing the Illinois phase of Lincoln’s life depicts him as a young professional standing in front of the state capitol building in Springfield. It includes the inscriptions “United States of America,” “E Pluribus Unum” and “One Cent,” and was designed by United States Mint AIP Master Designer Joel Iskowitz and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Don Everhart.

The official unveiling of the Lincoln cent was held August 13th in a special ceremony at the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Illinois.

\* \* \*



## American Samoa Quarter

The American Samoa quarter is the fourth in the 2009 District of Columbia and U.S. Territories Quarters Program. American Samoa – known as the heart of Polynesia – is a group of five islands and two coral atolls in the South Pacific, approximately 2,300 miles southwest of Hawaii and 2,700 miles northeast of Australia.

Contacts with Europeans began in the early 1700s and intensified with the arrival of English missionaries and traders in the 1830s. Under the Treaty of Berlin in 1899, the United Kingdom and Germany gave the United States rights and claims over the area, and it officially became a United States territory in 1929 when Congress ratified deeds of cession dating back to 1900 and 1904.

The American Samoa quarter reverse design depicts the ava bowl (“tanoa”), whisk and staff in the foreground with a coconut tree on the shore in the background and the inscriptions. “AMERICAN SAMOA and SAMOA MUAMUA LE ATUA”, the motto of American Samoa, which means “Samoa God is First.” The ava bowl is used to make the special ceremonial drink for island chiefs and guests during important events. The ava ceremony is considered the most significant traditional event in Samoan culture. The Wisk and staff symbolize the rank of the Samoan orator delivering speeches during these gatherings. The ava bowl, whisk and staff also appear on the Official Seal of American Samoa.

The review committee established by American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono solicited and reviewed reverse design narratives from the public, narrowing approximately 60 submissions down to three. These included the ava bowl, whisk and staff and coconut tree concept; a man with traditional Samoan tattoo holding an ava bowl, and a traditional Samoan guest house with a head-dress and ava bowl.

These narratives were forwarded to the United States Mint for the production of artistic renderings, which were then proposed to the territory. Governor Tulafono recommended the final design for the American Samoa quarter which the Secretary of the Treasury approved on July 31, 2008.

\* \* \*

## Green Bay Women Accused of Passing Fake Bills

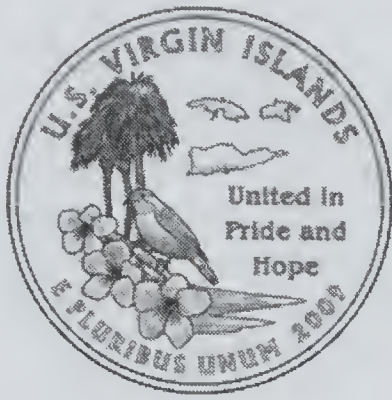
Mike Hoeft/Press Gazette article  
Submitted by Tim Larsen #1722)

A 26-year old woman accused of passing fake \$50 bills at weekend yard sales last June faces forgery charges after being tailed by a suspicious resident.

Green Bay police responded to a complaint in the 900 block of Hickory Hill Drive. A resident who held a rummage sale said he followed the car of a woman who had used the phony bill.

Police stopped the vehicle in the 800 block of 9th Street. The woman admitted making the counterfeit bills on a printer and passing them at four or five rummage sales earlier that day. She bought items worth \$6 and got \$44 in change. A resident on Wirtz Avenue identified the woman as the same one who passed a phony \$50 bill at her rummage sale.

\* \* \*



## Virgin Islands Quarter

The U.S. Virgin Islands quarter of the fifth in the 2009 District of Columbia and U.S. Territories Quarters Program.

These islands, located in the Caribbean Sea east of Puerto Rico, were explored by Christopher Columbus in 1493. They were first inhabited by the Arawak, Taino and later the Carib Indians, and colonized by Denmark beginning in 1666.

During the Napoleonic Wars, the islands were occupied by the English from 1801 to 1802 and from 1807 to 1815. Originally named the Danish West Indies, the United States purchased the three islands (St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John) along with approximately 50 islets, from Denmark in 1917 for \$25 million. Congress granted American citizenship to residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands in 1927. Under the Revised Organic Act of 1954, the U.S. Virgin Islands were provided a substantial amount of self-government, including the creation of a central government with distinct executive, legislative and judicial branches. Tourism is the primary economic activity, accounting for most of its gross domestic product and 70% of employment on the islands.

The U.S. Virgin Islands quarter reverse features an outline of the three major islands, the yellow breast or banana quit, its official bird; the yellow cedar or yellow elder, the official flower, and a Tyre Palm Tree with the inscriptions, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS and United in Pride and Hope, the official motto of the territory.

A review committee established by U.S. Virgin Islands Governor John deJongh developed three design narratives for the reverse

of the territory's quarter: the islands, yellow breast and yellow cedar ("Virgin Islands Beauty"), a male conch shell blower and three women symbolizing the three major islands. These narratives were forwarded to the United States Mint for the production of artistic renderings, which were then proposed to the territory, where the public voted in favor of recommending the "Virgin Islands Beauty" design. The Secretary of the Treasury approved the design on July 31, 2008.



## 2009 Presidential \$1 Coins

The U.S. Mint issues four Presidential \$1 coins each year. In 2009 these coins honor former Presidents William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Polk and Zachary Taylor.

The Mint hopes Americans not only appreciate the aesthetic qualities of the Presidential \$1 coins, but also remembers each President's legacy every time they use the coins in their daily transactions. Presidential \$1 coins are convenient to use, saves the taxpayers money and are durable and last for decades.

Unfortunately, the public hasn't readily accepted them. NOW member, Tim Larsen, went to his bank in Green Bay and asked if they had any new rolls of dollar coins. (They had the Washington and Jefferson rolls when they came out). The teller said "No, they found out nobody wanted 'em".



## **Presidential \$1 Coin**

**James K. Polk**  
**11<sup>th</sup> President 1845-1849**

James K. Polk, America's 11<sup>th</sup> President, was born in 1795 in North Carolina.

When he was a young boy, his family moved to the wilderness of Tennessee to establish a plantation there. Trained as a lawyer, he served six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, including 4 years as Speaker of the House. After leaving the House, he served as Tennessee governor.

Despite his many years of national service, he was relatively unknown when he was nominated by the Democratic Party to run for president. He was the first "dark-horse" candidate to be nominated by a major political party and won the presidency by a slim margin over Henry Clay.

Polk was a strong proponent of "Manifest Destiny," the belief that the United States had the right to expand throughout the entire continent. He oversaw the growth of the country by more than one million square miles during his time in office, including the annexation of present-day Oregon and Washington from Great Britain. Through war with Mexico and the subsequent Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, California and New Mexico were added, and a Texas border on the Rio Grande was established.

A hard worker who rarely delegated even minor tasks, he hardly took a day of vacation while president. Having pledged to serve just one term, he left office exhausted from the strains of the presidency. He died in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1849, just 3-1/2 months after leaving office.

President Polk did not appoint a Director of the United States Mint.

Coinage legislation under President Polk: Act of March 3, 1849 authorized the coinage of gold dollars and \$20 Double Eagles.

## **First Spouse \$10 Gold Coin**

**Sarah Polk**  
**1845-1849**



The Sarah Polk First Spouse Gold Coin will be the 12th release of the series created to honor the President's spouses. The coin is scheduled to be released this fall and will be the 4th release for the series during 2009. A total of 5 First Spouse Coins will be issued during the year.

Sarah Childress Polk received an education traditionally available only to the most privileged young women of her time. When she was 14, Sarah and her sister undertook a month-long 500-mile journey on horseback from Tennessee to North Carolina to attend the Moravian Female Academy, one of the best girls' schools in the country. Her studies went well beyond the traditional education young girls received to include Greek and Roman literature and world history. These academic pursuits provided her with a world view that enhanced her political discussions.

When Sarah married James Knox Polk, he was a Tennessee state congressman. As his political career progressed, most biographers agree that he trusted neither adversaries nor allies, but he had a profound trust in his wife.

Sarah devoted her married life to her husband's political career. She served as his private secretary, so she was privy to everything. Sarah read major newspapers and magazines and marked articles she felt most important, leaving them on a chair outside the President's office for him to read. She helped write his speeches, attended cabinet meetings, organized his campaigns, advised him on crucial nominations and gave him knowledgeable counsel on political issues and developed a network of valuable political friendships.

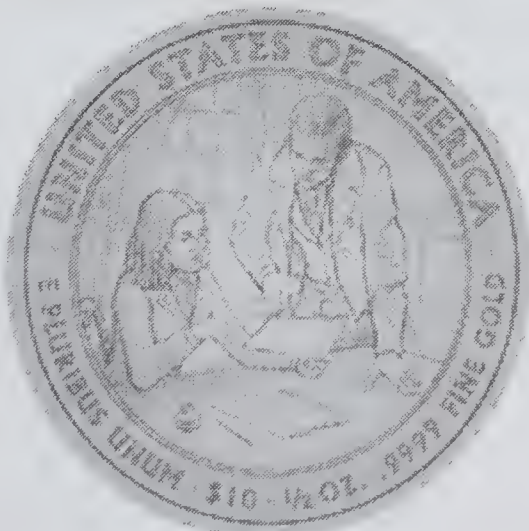
In an era when men would socialize in one room and their wives would retire to a different room for “ladies’ talk”, she was known for her occasional insistence on accompanying her husband into the men’s conversation. She frequently spoke publicly on political matters, although every opinion was preceded with, “Mr. Polk says...” She refused to take sides on the question of slavery and during the Civil War she accepted both Union and Confederate officers as guests at her estate.

She and her husband opened the White House twice a week for evening receptions and personally greeted those who attended. In the summer, the Marine Corps band played once a week on the lawn for visitors. She also oversaw the refurbishment of the White House, including the installation of gas lighting.

Sarah was, however, devoutly religious. She refused to dance, play card games, or attend theatrical plays, and while her husband was President, the White House did not serve hard liquor.

In 1877 she had a telephone installed at Polk Place, the first phone in metropolitan Nashville, and in 1888 she performed the honor of ceremonially turning on Cincinnati’s first electric lights.

The couple had no children, but raised a nephew, Marshall Tate Polk Jr. (1831-1884). Her husband died just three months after leaving the Presidency, whispering his last words, “I love you, Sarah, for all eternity, I love you.” Mrs. Polk reportedly wore black to signify mourning for the 42 years remaining in her life, and beyond attending church on



Sundays she rarely left their Tennessee home. After her husband’s death, she took in her niece, Sarah Polk Jetton (1847-1924).

The coin’s reverse inscriptions include “United States of America”, “E Pluribus Unum”, the denomination “\$10”, the gold content “1/2 oz.”, and the gold purity “.9999 Fine Gold”. The reverse of the coin was designed and sculpted by Phebe Hemphill.

Sarah Polk First Spouse Gold Coins will be offered in proof and uncirculated finishes.

\* \* \*

## Founders Lose Control of National Gold Exchange

Mark and Alan Yaffe, brothers who built National Gold Exchange into one of the world’s leading rare coin sellers, recently lost control of their business in bankruptcy court.

In a court hearing Monday, August 3rd, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Michael Williamson placed National Gold Exchange in the hands of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy trustee. The trustee will oversee the Carrollwood-based business as it works its way through bankruptcy.

There is about \$35 million in secured debt and another \$15 million in unsecured debt according to filings with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

### You Just Can’t Fix STUPID

[submitted by Tom Casper]

Recently, when I went to McDonald’s I saw on the menu that I could have an order of 6, 9 or 12 chicken McNuggets. I asked for a half dozen nuggets. “We don’t have half dozen nuggets” said the teenager at the counter. “You don’t?” I said.

“We only have six, nine or twelve” was her reply. “So I can’t order a half-dozen nuggets, but I can order six?” “That’s right.” she said. So I shook my head and ordered six McNuggets!



# MILWAUKEE COIN SHOW



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

One day only – don't miss this one!

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society (MNS) will host it's Annual Coin Show on Sunday, October 4th, 2009, at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 West Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Open to the public

Show Hours: 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**COINS – PAPER MONEY  
BOUGHT – SOLD –  
TRADED**

**Bourse  
Sold Out**

American Serb Memorial Hall  
5101 West Oklahoma Avenue

**75 tables to serve you**

FREE WOODEN NICKEL – while supplies last

**Great Numismatic Exhibits on Display**

“The Original” Wisconsin's greatest coin show

Bourse info: David H- Bourse Chair. (262) 338-6064

## Surprise Windfall Found in Pages of Used Book

[Carroll County News article submitted by Leon Saryan]

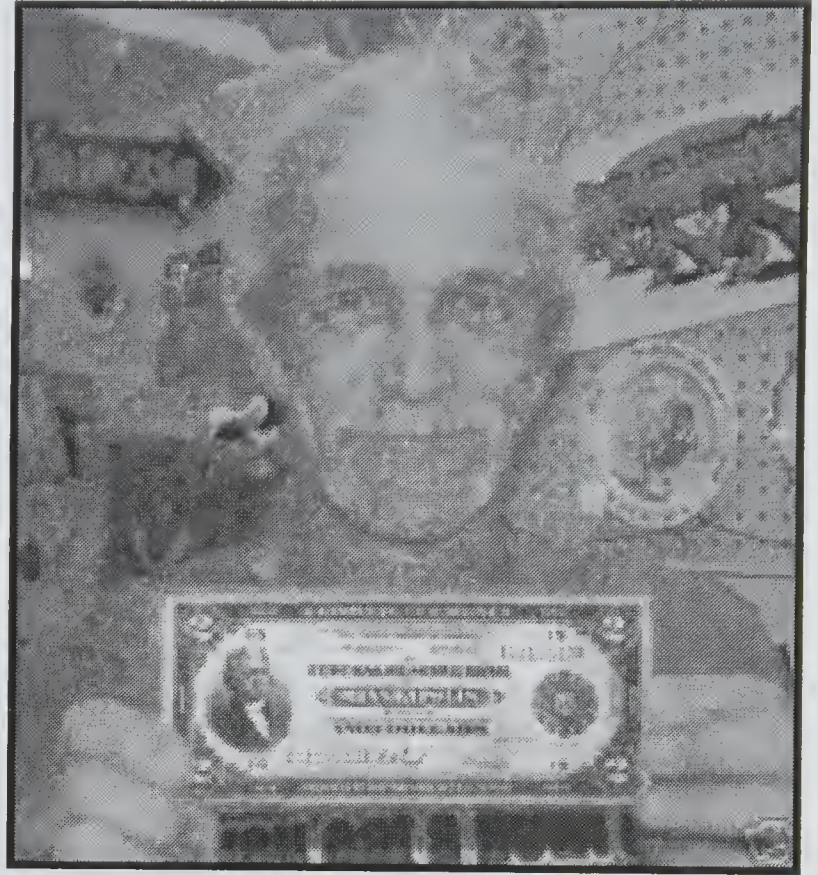
A Green Forest, Arkansas man down on his luck has learned the value of reading and is richer as a result.

Bob Coggins, who does handyman work and other odd jobs for Green Forest Police Chief, John Bailey, was browsing through the used books at Macdoo's flea market on Green Forest's Main Street in early May when he saw an old book that caught his interest. He bought it, but put it aside. One day he opened the book and a piece of paper fell out. It was an over-sized \$2 bill with a battleship on the back. Bob looked it over and noticed that it had two different dates – 1914 and 1918 – and thought maybe he had something. So, he dropped by the Country Rooster Antiques and Café on Green Forest's Square and showed it to owner Rob Kerby.

"We see a lot of old currency," Kerby said. "It's extremely rare that an old bill is valuable. Many people have tattered silver certificates that they think are worth a lot of money. Most are worth face value, a dollar or five dollars. I hate it when people bring in old currency, because it's usually a big disappointment."

So, Kerby told Coggins that he doubted that the \$2 bill was worth much. Coggins went home, but couldn't put the thought out of his mind that this bill was different -- nothing like he'd ever seen before. The next day he approached Kerby again, who decided to prove to Coggins that the bill wasn't all that valuable. He fired up his laptop computer and typed in a description of the bill.

"To my utter amazement," Kerby said, "the first thing that came up was that eBay was selling copies of the bill for \$12. Copies, not the real thing." That in itself meant the bill was valuable, the fact that anybody would



want a copy. So, Kerby kept researching on the internet and found that in the last month, bills similar to the one held by Coggins had sold for \$1,500 and more at a couple of Internet coin shops. Furthermore, a pristine, uncirculated bill identical to Coggins' was currently being offered for \$4,750 by a dealer in California.

So we sent e-mails to five of the coin dealers," Coggins said, "describing my bill and asking them what they thought it was worth."

A Florida dealer responded first, noting that Coggins' bill had three creases on it from being folded, but otherwise was uncirculated. It was crisp and not torn. As a result, it probably would be graded by a professional appraiser as "very fine" to "extra fine". In the collectible currency world, the top grading is "gem-quality uncirculated," followed by "uncirculated" and "about uncirculated" followed by "extra fine" and "very fine." He added that the bill was highly sought-after by currency collectors. All that meant, the dealer said, that the bill would retail for \$1,250 to \$1,650.

Another dealer in Ohio also responded and advised that Coggins would be unlikely to be able to sell the note for retail. Instead, he would have to settle for wholesale – the price a coin and currency dealer would pay. That would be between \$650 and \$850. So, Coggins and Kerby agreed to put it up for auction on eBay, just to see how it would do.. At press time on Monday the bidding had reached \$745.

In collectors' language, the bill is known as a "1918 \$2 Battleship FRBN Minneapolis." It is the only large-sized, \$2 bill issued as a Federal Reserve Bank Note. Each note has the issuing Federal Reserve Bank's name, such as Denver or San Francisco or New York, and could only be redeemed at that bank. The front of the note features a portrait of Thomas Jefferson to the left and wording in the entire center. The reverse features a World War I battleship, the only U.S. currency ever to do so.

It would look nice in a frame on the wall of Coggins' apartment, he admits, but he'd rather have the cash. We're glad we could help him out," Kerby said. "We've stopped putting items on eBay for folks who come in off the street. Much of the time the only folks making money on eBay is eBay because of their high fees." Coggins says he doesn't mind paying eBay about \$40 in fees. "Hey, I'm happy with whatever I get. Tuesday morning I had \$3.65 to my name!"

#### **Footnote by Leon Saryan:**

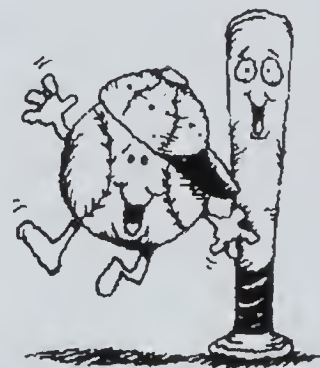
After a bit of research on eBay, I found that this particular note sold on June 1st for \$1,136.11 (Item #270406618952). I use eBay all the time and I do agree with dealer Kerby that eBay seller fees are too high, especially for people selling inexpensive items. However, the most interesting part of this story is that the antique "dealer" had no idea that a large-size U.S. bank note in decent condition, such as this one, had any significant value. This level of ignorance is inexcusable. (I am often amazed at how poorly informed antique dealers are about numismat-

ics!) By using a computer and the internet, it is possible to ascertain instantly not only what the item is, but also that it has significant value. To be fair, not even experts know everything, which is why I am a great fan of using the internet for numismatic research and discovery. In this day and age, collectors who do not make use of a computer to study their collections and make intelligent purchases are missing out. To be sure, there are pitfalls, and I have written extensively about them. On the other hand there is also a world of learning available at your fingertips, even if you are not buying or selling.

\* \* \*

## **Baseball and Numismatics Converge**

by Jeff Reichenberger  
#1933

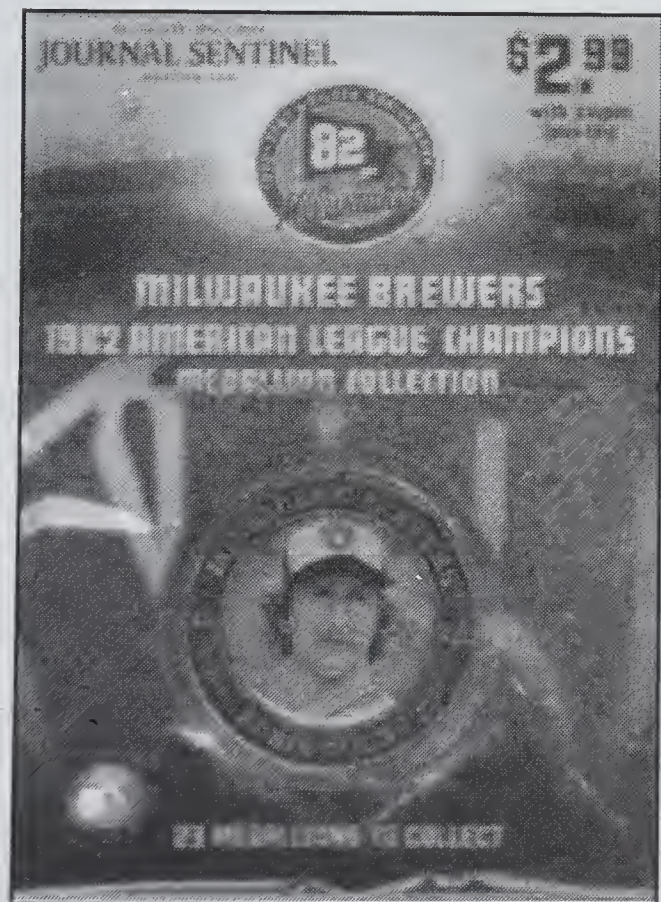


The coming of autumn brings several things to mind -- colorful flora and fauna, falling leaves and brisk fresh air. For the avid baseball fan the end of the season comes to a climax with 'the Fall Classic', the American and National League pennant races and the World Series. Baseball fans plod through six months of the regular season in hopeful anticipation that their favorite team will play ball in October.

If numismatics and baseball are two of your favorite pastimes, then there are plenty of opportunities for you to combine the two with a collection of baseball related medals, coinage, and ephemera. Every ballpark gift shop has at least one commemorative coin or medal in its case. In addition, most ballparks have an elongated penny machine or two, which is an inexpensive way to collect a token of your team. Often a team or a major sponsor will remember a championship season with a set of medals. In 2007 the Milwaukee Brewers along with the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel newspaper issued a set to recognize

the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brewers 1982 American League pennant championship. Fans could obtain one of the colored medallions at local grocery outlets each day until the set was complete. The 23 medallions depicted a player from the '82 team. In years past there have been similarly issued sets; in 1962 the Salada tea company issued a set of plastic coins with player photo inserts, and in 1963 they issued a set of All Star Baseball coins made of metal; in 1964 the Topps baseball card company issued a set of baseball coins depicting players, many of the coins can be obtained today for prices starting under \$10. Prices rise depending on the prominence of the player.

There are inexpensive issues from the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame as well as a number of private mints that churn out many baseball coins and medals. The Highland Mint is one example; their website offers hundreds of products ranging from \$10 to thousands of dollars. A quick web search will deluge the numismatic baseball enthusiast with an endless supply of fun.



*Medallion of Robin Yount, complete with promotional packaging.*

In the category of federally authorized U.S. Mint commemorative coinage, there are not as many options available. The Olympiad commemoratives offer two baseball related coins beginning in 1992 with the XXV Olympic silver dollar. It depicts a pitcher getting ready to hurl a fastball on the obverse and a combination of the Olympic rings and a stars and stripes shield on the reverse. The Denver Mint struck uncirculated dollars and the San Francisco Mint struck the coins in Proof only, 187,552 and 504,505 respectively according to the Guide Book of United States Coins (Red Book). They are each currently priced under \$30.



*1992 U.S. Mint issue Olympic silver dollar*

The Mint went all out for the XXVI Olympiad held in Atlanta, GA in 1996. They began striking coins for the celebration in 1995, and offered clad half dollars and silver dollars depicting twelve different sports. The baseball version was struck in 1995 and shows a batter, catcher, and umpire on the obverse and the Olympic torch surrounded by a world map on the reverse. The clad coins were minted in San Francisco in both uncirculated and proof and are valued at around \$25 in the Red Book.



*1995 U.S. Mint issue Olympic clad half dollar*

The only U.S. Mint issue tied to Major League baseball came in 1997 when Congress honored the great Jackie Robinson with a silver dollar and a five dollar gold piece commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when Jackie broke the color barrier. Perhaps the greatest moment in major league baseball history, he did it with his amazing athletic ability, courage, and dignity both on and off the field.

The mint was commissioned to strike 200,000 silver dollars and 100,000 five dollar gold coins; however the actual mintage totals are much smaller. According to the Red Book, just 30,180 uncirculated silver dollars and 110,002 proofs were struck at the San Francisco Mint. The value listed for the uncirculated version is \$90 and proofs are listed at \$80. The \$5 gold pieces were minted at West Point. A scant 5,174 uncirculated and 24,072 proof coins were struck. The uncirculated coin is valued at \$5,500; remarkably the pre-issue price in 1997 was \$180. That calculates to a whopping 3000% increase in just over ten years! The proof version is listed at \$900 and had an initial pre-issue price of \$195.

The obverse of the silver dollar depicts a rendition of Jackie stealing home plate as he did in the 1955 World Series between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Yankees. On the famous play, Jackie slid in under the tag of catcher Yogi Berra who still disputes the call to this day. The reverse shows the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo of the Jackie Robinson foundation surrounded by legends of two of his baseball accomplishments "Rookie of the Year 1947" and "Hall of Fame 1962".

The \$5 coin is unique in that it is the first gold commemorative coin honoring an African American. On the obverse is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  bust of Jackie with his name above and 'Liberty' below. The reverse shows a baseball inscribed with the phrase "Legacy of Courage" surrounded by 'United States of America' and the denomination.



*U.S. Mint Jackie Robinson commemoratives 1997*

There are a few items of 'antiquity' that can be included in a baseball themed collection if one has the patience and means. It stands to reason these items would exist given the fact that baseball, or a form of it, has been around since the mid eighteenth century when a ball-and-stick baseball-like game gathered momentum, popularity, and standardization. By the mid 1800's the game, largely as we know it, was organized in towns and cities across the country. Professional baseball clubs formed and flourished in the 1860's and remained the established 'pastime' of choice straight through to the twentieth century. Major League Baseball formed officially in 1903 when the National and American Leagues joined forces.

Possibly the earliest engraved depiction of a baseball-like game appeared on the 1857 James Buchanan Indian Peace Medal. The reverse shows an interesting (some have called comical) scene of a farm homestead with the foreground occupied by a Native American in full headdress working behind a plow horse. The background depicts those homesteaders playing a game of baseball. Produced by the U.S. Mint in silver and bronze and in two different sizes, 62.4mm (2 ½ inches) and 76mm (3 inch), the medals come up for auction occasionally and command prices well into the hundreds and even thousands depending

on condition. The smaller of the two sizes are substantially more rare and thus command higher prices. Five years later, in the midst of the Civil War the same reverse was paired with an Abraham Lincoln obverse Indian Peace Medal in 1862. These works of art are catalogued in detail in Robert W. Julian's "Medals of the United States Mint – The First Century, 1792 – 1892".



*James Buchanan Indian Peace Medal 1857 in silver*

Another fine item of the era was the Pioneer Baseball Club Medal struck in 1861. Die cutter John Adams Bolen of Springfield, Massachusetts created the medal that is approximately 1 3/8 inches in diameter. 75 were struck in copper and 125 in white metal. The obverse is a baseball player at bat eyeing up a ball that is just in front of him. The reverse reads, 'Organized April 30, 1858. Play Ground on Hampton Park. Springfield, Mass.' It is featured as number 84 in Whitman's '100 Greatest American Medals and Tokens' by Katherine Jaeger and Q. David Bowers, and prized by token and medal collectors today, it could be considered a crowned jewel of the baseball



*Pioneer Baseball Club Medal 1861 in copper*

fan/numismatist. They garner three to four hundred dollars in AU condition and over one thousand dollars in some mint state grades.

My favorite baseball / numismatic ephemera combination comes in published form. The 1936 World Series featured cross-town rivals, the New York Giants against the New York Yankees. The Giants fielded the likes of future Hall of Famers Mel Ott and Bill Terry and the great Lou Gehrig and an upstart rookie named Joe DiMaggio shouldered the Yankees.

The real star of the series (at least in my eyes) was the 1936 World Series Official Program, which featured cover art prominently displaying the reverse of the buffalo nickel.



*The 1936 World Series Official Program.  
The Yanks took the series 4 games to 2.*

Grant Powers was the artist who created the cover. A veteran of both WWI and WWII, he is most noted for his WWII watercolor paintings of Bikini Atoll naval battles in the Pacific. Several of his works are displayed in the Naval Historical Center in Washington D.C. Exactly how he came upon the commission to paint the World Series program cover is undetermined.

The artwork is layered, so to speak; in the foreground are the home plate umpire, the catcher, and the batter who appears to have just stroked a base hit. Immediately in front of the batter, is the larger than life buffalo nickel rising up from the pitchers position in the middle of the diamond. Behind the nickel is the darkened silhouette of the New York skyline in front of an orange night sky. The wording on the cover reads; 'World Series -- Giants vs. Yankees 1936', 'Official Program 25¢'. The legends 'United States of America' and 'E Pluribus Unum' appear on the nickel along with the bison.

I obtained a replica of the program for about \$40 on an internet auction site, however, original copies turn up occasionally and usually command \$250-\$300. A framed copy of the cover makes a great wall piece for the baseball fan / numismatist. Inside the program is filled with the usual player profiles along with plenty of advertising. Harry M. Stevens, Inc. of New York published it. Unfortunately there is not any information about the artist or what may have inspired his choice of the buffalo nickel. The logical conclusion is that the Giants vs. Yankees was known as a "Subway Series" and it cost a nickel to ride the subway. It can also be surmised that he was an admirer of James Earle Fraser's 'all American' coin design and used it as a symbol of 'America's pastime', and he must have been a purist for Fraser's original design; whereas, Mr. Powers found himself in a unique position to put the buffalo back on the mound.

Citation of sources for this article appears within the text:

- A Guide Book of United States Coins, the Official Red Book, Whitman Publishing;
- Medals of the United States Mint, the First Century 1792-1892, R.W. Julian, published by the Token and Medal Society;
- 100 Greatest American Medals and Tokens, Katherine Jaeger and Q. David Bowers, Whitman Publishing;

- A few tidbits of information about baseball were obtained from Encyclopedia Britanica;
- Information on Grant Powers can be obtained from the Navel Historical Center website;
- Photos of the Robin Yount medallion and World Series program taken by the author;
- Photos of the Olympic commemorative coins and the Jackie Robinson commemoratives were scanned from the "Red Book" (permission pending);
- Photos of the Pioneer Baseball Club medal were scanned from '100 Greatest American Medals and Tokens' (permission pending);
- Photos of the Buchanan Indian Peace Medal were scanned from "Stacks Americana Sale catalog of January 12-14, 2009 (permission pending).

\* \* \*



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# **The California Midwinter Expo Short and Sweet**

by Gene Johnson #L105

Within the Midwesterner historic view of “how the west was won” exist a second layer of noteworthy folks, a notch down from the railroad barons, lumber kings, and shipping magnets, who are both historically revered and hated today.

Not often lionized, those of the second layer played significant roles in drawing to the west, and to California in particular, the entrepreneurs and free spirited men and women east of the Mississippi River.

Once upon a time in San Francisco, prior to the epic earthquake of 1906, a sort of tourist lobby, ram rodded by a newspaper owner, put together an amazing financial coup that even today is eye opening! This was the “California Midwinter International Exposition.”

Back around 1900, in the media prior to radio and television, newspapers wielded far greater clout, editorially focusing whatever was their cause or concern. San Francisco newspaper owner Michael H. deYoung dreamed California dreams as he viewed the “great” Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1892.

Michael Harry deYoung came to California from Missouri as a boy, and with his brother Charles in 1865 created the “Daily Dramatic Chronicle.” This small newspaper grew and became the San Francisco Chronicle. During the time period 1865-1894, deYoung’s newspaper helped turn San Francisco from a rough frontier town into a thriving and sophisticated city.

The more “silent partner” and a less haralded Midwinter Exposition promoter was James Duval Phelan, a very young banker who had taken the responsibility for three San Francisco area banks only a year earlier

following the death of his father in 1892. It was Phelan whose star rose following the Midwinter Exposition. He became Mayor of San Francisco in 1897, and later gained fame as one of the “Committee of Fifty,” rebuilding the city after the 1906 earthquake crisis. Topping his amazing lifetime was a tour in office as Senator from the state of California.

DeYoung and Phelan devised a plan that was to promote the California mild winter climate, beat the drum for San Francisco, and with a sort of “mini” Columbian Exposition, create dollars in a recession economy.

This overall plan must have stuck a harmonious note with San Franciscans. Through subscriptions the men raised three quarters of a million dollars, without a cent of bureaucratic doles! In today’s dollars, a million bucks? The result was the “California Midwinter International Exposition of 1894”, only a little over four months in duration, but huge in immigration and financial impact.

Begun in August of 1893, the one hundred building complex of the “Midwinter International Exposition of 1894” was completed in an incredible 6 months, utilizing 60 donated acres within the Golden Gate Park.

As with every fair and exposition, there was to be a centerpiece, in the case of the Midwinter Expo event, this was a 260 foot “electric tower,” with a spotlight that beamed on the highlighted a “prayer book cross”.

Electricity was still relative new in 1885 and still not in widespread use. The tower is featured on the reverse of the medal shown. While the electric tower was headlined, the administration building fronted by the “allegorical” fountain was incredibly beautiful, as shown on the obverse of the illustrated medal. (Hibler/Kappen #246).

As for the “international” aspect of the Midwinter fair, a number of foreign displays from the Columbian exposition were borrowed and used, and housed primarily in buildings provided by individual California counties.

The short-lived fair is well remembered in exonumia, in addition to two brass “official” medals, another 21 aluminum souvenir medals, and a white metal piece are listed in the 1963 Hibler/Kappen so called dollar book. Of the 24 souvenir medals, four are listed as very rare (including the illustrated piece) and a single piece, is listed as extremely rare by the authors of the Hibler/Kappen book.



The not too modest fair honcho, Michael H. DeYoung, is pictured on the obverse of one of the 24 medals (the H/K #248).

*Obv. Bust of M.H. DeYoung, president and director-general of Exposition, around California Midwinter International Expoosition” “1894”*

*Rev. Modification of State Seal, around Souvenir at San Francisco California” 1994. White metal size 25. Very Scarce*

The H/K book states that some of these aluminum medals were struck at the “Mechanics” building on the Midwinter fair grounds.

As for the medal that spawned this story, token hunting in California as in Wisconsin, is a combination of searching coin stores, antique shops, flea markets and garage sales. The pretty Midwinter fair medal of this story is a very pleasing gift from a Coachella Valley businessman friend.

The “Midwinter” fair ran from February 28<sup>th</sup> through July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1894, and had an astounding attendance of 2-1/2 million! Since the original subscriptions to create the Expo were donations, the profit from the Expo was plowed back into San Francisco, some being used to purchase foreign artifacts that later became museum pieces in the city.

M.H. deYoung bought some of the foreign Columbian Fair exhibits that had graced the Midwinter Expo, and using the Art Gallery of the defunct exposition, created a museum, named (of course) after himself.

As this namesake museum grew over the years, a number of wings were added to the Art Gallery building, and the museum became a San Francisco landmark. Rebuilt after being damaged in a 1989 earthquake, it is famous today!

Of all the displays of the Midwinter International Exposition of 1894, one that is remembered in a rare photograph, is THE one that I would have loved to see. It was the mining camp building and exhibits, echoing the 1849ers gold rush.



**ADMINISTRATION  
BUILDING—  
ELECTRIC TOWER  
DOLLAR**



**Obverse:**

*Within sunken center, edifice; above, around Administration Building; on edifice base, r., A. Hylen. Chi.; below edifice, microscopic Blumenfeld S. F. C. and bear, walking r.; outside, around California Midwinter International Exposition \* 1894.: Electric tower; within scroll, to l. in field, 18 and within scroll to r., 94; below tower is bear, walking r.; outside, around Souvenir of San Francisco.*

[reference: So-called Dollars, Hibler/Kappen 1963 and Internet searches by Mary Wahlberg.

\*\*\*

# The Handshake

by Michael Turrini #104L

In any person's life and times, there are defining moments and predicating events that forever or for sure ordain the future.

For many of us, remembering back to the required readings in English literature of the great novels by Thomas Hardy, as his "Tess of the D'Urbervilles", and "The Mayor of Casterbridge", we might recollect that Hardy's lesson, in many of his great works was how one single event, one simple act, or even one day could forever wrought what had been thought.

My story is to share that lesson, which we might have long ago forgotten as our life, careers, and families place upon us far more demands and duties than reading an achievement of English Literature. My story is personal and like Hardy, it is intended to give a lesson abet maybe a lesson only I might comprehend.

To begin, take yourselves back nearly 40 years. Back to the summer of 1972 and think what age you were or where you lived or worked or simply where. For me, I was completing my Junior year at San Francisco State University, my alma mater, and working for the local parks and recreation in Vallejo, California. At the time, my job was at Children's Wonderland, a small park for young kids.

Having had an interest in numismatics (or as I prefer now in my writing and talks to address our lofty 'world of money', the 'coin hobby' – something came to me and it was not from reading any coin hobby literature, for I did not subscribe at the time to any or from membership in the American Numismatic Association (ANA) because it would be 10 more years before joining it while not joining our Canadian Numismatic Association (CNA) until 1986; rather it was simply intuitive and my mind told me "you have to join a local

club". Yes, a little voice spoke to me about the most basic of coin hobby enhancements: joining and belonging to a local coin club.

For me, that meant the Vallejo Numismatic Society. I had even attended a meeting a few years back with a college friend. It was summer 1972 and nothing particularly was happening, save that Richard Nixon was on his way to a triumphant reelection, and I was working the summer at Children's Wonderland. But the call to join a coin club kept at me and knowing that the Vallejo Numismatic Society met on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday evening. I resolved and pledged to attend and to ask about joining. Declaration From the Heart.

But something interfered – maybe just laziness or the great summer weather, and it was now August and it was 'do or die' since in September my body and mind would return to San Francisco State University.

That evening I told my mother that I was going to a coin club meeting at the Veterans Memorial Building. The Veterans Memorial Building was an imposing structure, solidly made, rising to four stories over Vallejo's designated City Park. In the United States, as in Canada, in the 1920s and 1930s the American Doughboys returning home from what they called The Great War erected these buildings in the communities across the states. These all had common characteristics: meeting and fraternal rooms, a place for dinners and parties, and a bar.

For all my presence and confidence today, back then I was simply scared -- scared for I had never joined anything save the Sierra Club and that was by mail. How would I be received? A college kid in the early 1970s was not popular, remembering the campus unrest of the 1960s. There would be no one whom I would know. I went alone and I was scared.

But having resolved to 'cross the Rubicon', I walked up the steps into the once majestic building and turned into the bar, asking for

directed me down the stairs into what was called the dining areas.

The sensation walking down those stairs is still felt years later: the noise, the vitality, the activity and the intensity all still come to me. I could hear it; I could feel it and when I stepped into the room, I saw it. The room was full and everyone seemed to be talking or going about. It was alive.

Across from where I stopped, was a head table and an older gentleman, a person whose age now is my age and my eyes caught him. He was busy, with papers spread before him and writing or scribbling something, separate from all the commotion. Something told me to go to him, which I did in a straight beeline.

Having rehearsed my introduction, I walked up and said "Sir, may I ask you about joining the coin club?... Listen... may I ask if I can..." I was so nervous.

He stopped, stood up, looked straight at me, smiled and grasped my hand and without a pause, said "Welcome, we would love you to join." Then, referring to a gentleman by the name of Pete Petersen who was the coin club's president, said "We have a new member here". Mr. Petersen immediately walked over and shook my hand, extending his equal welcome. All within a few quick seconds... a handshake, a warm welcome, and friendliness confirmed my membership. Completion of a membership application and \$3 dues and I was a member!

Merrill Keaton, who was the secretary at the time, could have dismissed my inquiry with "I'm busy" or "come back in a few minutes" or "do you have some ID?" or "how did you hear about our club?", but he didn't. He stood up, smiled, shook my hand and welcomed me.

If any defining moment can be identified that brought me to this very place, was Mr. Keaton's handshake. Everything since and everything yet to be in my coin hobby, can be traced to that few seconds back in 1972.

This "Handshake" wasn't important in the great plan of my life and was not that important for much that has happened to me since and yet to be. However, a kind gesture by someone, now long disappeared, welcomed me, beckoned me and enticed me into this hobby... this "world of money" which has been, is and shall always be so much of my life and times.

\* \* \*

### **Editor's Comment**

#### **Where have all the Coin Club's gone?**

Mr. Turrini's article can be a lesson to all of us. Unfortunately, several coin clubs in Wisconsin have folded over the years... some probably due to lack of membership or members move, die or just lose interest.

According to the "First 25 years of Numismatists of Wisconsin." booklet compiled by Gene Johnson there were 35 active Wisconsin coin clubs. Today, only 17 coin clubs are active members of N.O.W.

#### **How can we keep the hobby alive?**

Coin clubs need to recruit new members, provide speakers, auctions, show & tell, participate in National Coin Week and encourage young people to start collecting coins.... and the next time a newcomer walks into your club meeting, walk over, shake their hand and welcome them.

No coin club in your area? Why not start one? Call NOW President, Thad Streeter at 715-335-5437).

\* \* \*

## Cigar Stand

by Gene Johnson #L105



The Clement brothers were stemwinders in the year 1868. They seemed to have a hand in just about everything happening in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Shortly after the Civil War, Fond du Lac was the second largest city in Wisconsin, with 15,000 people and a lot of sawdust.

The wood industry was booming at "The Bottom of the Lake" as the French named it, and the "C" boys were right in the Fond du Lac mix.

There were 28 saw and shingle mills, four sash and door factories, a dozen wagon makers, 15 planning mills and cabinet makers, a pail and tub factory and a couple of hub and spoke factories.

All these labor intensive work places employed a lot of blue collar men who needed a cold beer and a good cigar now and then, so it is not surprising that the city in addition to numerous saloons, also had 5 cigar manufactures.

As nearly as can be unscrambled from the sketchy historic directories available, there were at least four Clement brothers - Charles, Sam, August and Jim.

City directories were a little scarce back then, but Charles was listed as being in the wagon building business AND cigar manufacture. Charles and one W. Wilson are listed at 30 West Second Street as "manufacturers of wagons, carriages, buggies, sleighs & Etc."

Clement "brothers" in the same directory are "dealers in choice cigars and tobacco, Brier Root and Meerschaum pipes and smok-

ers articles generally". In this directory the brother's address is 9 West Division, which is the same address as listed on the token.

Subsequent directories list Charles and Sam Clement as the cigar maker brothers. Sam later ran a hack line.

The 1868 shellcard advertisement illustrated is the paperback variety, one of the three major types described by Curly Mitchell and Russ Rulau in the "Society of Token, Medal, and Obsolete Paper Money Collectors" (STMOPMC) first bulletin in April 1961. This organization later became TAMS.



All three of the different types of shellcards described in the STMOPMC bulletin are in my collection. These are the mirror back, paperback and metal back.

Although over 500 different examples of 1860s type shellcard tokens are known, shellcards seldom turn up on today's scene. Only two known types are common... all others are considered scarce or rare, including many of which only one piece is known.

Several merchants who issued the highly collectable brass Civil War 1862-1863 store-cards also issued shellcards in 1867-68.

The printed ad paper back shellcard like the Clement brother's piece shown, often is scuffed and loses its printed design, while the mirror card is prone to breakage, and the metal back type, even with a stiff cardboard center is prone to denting, cracking or bending.

These facts and the century-old issue date no doubt have diminished the number of examples remaining in collectors' hands. Another part of the problem is the contempt early numismatists had for shellcards. In 1881 J.M. Tilton created a checklist of 355 different shellcards. His collection was sold in 1886, and most pieces sold for two cents or less; many for a half cent!

The Mitchell/Rulau listings in the STMOPMC newsletter have not been published in book form... a checklist would surely encourage advanced collectors.

Of the six shellcards in my collection, two were new listings previously not in TAMS and now have been reported, scarce as the shells are. No doubt there are more to be found.

The Clements brothers token in my collection came from researcher, collector, friend, Louis Stubler of Sheboygan, and most of the Fond du Lac library research was provided by another good friend, the late Glen Williams.

\* \* \*

## Halloween History

[source: History.com]

As European immigrants came to America, they brought their varied Halloween customs with them. Because of the rigid Protestant belief systems that characterized early New England, celebration of Halloween in colonial times was extremely limited there.



It was much more common in Maryland and the southern colonies. As the beliefs and customs of different European ethnic groups, as well as the American Indians, meshed, a distinctly American version of Halloween began to emerge.

The first celebrations included "play parties," public events held to celebrate the harvest, where neighbors would share stories of the dead, tell each other's fortunes, dance and sing. Colonial Halloween festivities also featured the telling of ghost stories and mischief-making of all kinds. By the middle of the 19th century, annual autumn festivities were common, but Halloween was not yet celebrated everywhere in the country.

In the 2nd half of the 19th century, America was flooded with new immigrants. These newcomers, especially the millions of Irish fleeing Ireland's potato famine of 1846, helped to popularize the celebration of Halloween nationally. Taking from Irish and English traditions, Americans began to dress up in costumes and go house to house asking for food or money, a practice that eventually became today's 'trick-or-treat' tradition.

Young women believed that, on Halloween, they could divine the name or appearance

of their future husband by doing tricks with yarn, apple parings, or mirrors.

In the late 1800s, there was a move in America to mold Halloween into a holiday more about community and neighborly get-togethers, than about ghosts, pranks and witchcraft.

At the turn of the century, Halloween parties for both children and adults became the most common way to celebrate the day. Parties focused on games, foods of the season and festive costumes. Parents were encouraged by newspapers and community leaders to take anything “frightening” or “grotesque” out of Halloween celebrations. Because of their efforts, Halloween lost most of its superstitious and religious overtones by the beginning of the 20th century.

By the 1920s and 1930s, Halloween had become a secular, but community-centered holiday, with parades and town-wide parties, as the featured entertainment. Despite the best efforts of many schools and communities, vandalism began to plague Halloween celebrations in many communities during this time.

By the 1950s, town leaders had successfully limited vandalism and Halloween had evolved into a holiday directed mainly at the young. Due to the high numbers of young “baby boomers,” parties moved from town civic centers into the classroom or home where they could be more easily accommodated.

## Trick or Treat

Between 1920 and 1950, the centuries-old practice of trick-or-treating was also revived. Trick-or-treating was a relatively inexpensive way for an entire community to share the Halloween celebration. In theory, families could also prevent tricks being played on them by providing the children with small treats. A new American tradition was born and has continued to grow. Today, Americans spend an estimated \$6.9 billion annually on Halloween, making it the second largest commercial holiday.

The American tradition of trick-or-treating” probably dates back to the early All Souls Day parades in England. During the festivities, poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called “soul cakes” in return for their promise to pray for the family’s dead relatives.

The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits. The practice, which was referred to as “going a-souling” was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food and money.

The tradition of dressing in costume has both European and Celtic roots. Hundreds of years ago, winter was an uncertain and frightening time. Food supplies often ran low and for the many people afraid of the dark, the short days of winter were full of constant worry. On Halloween, when it was believed that ghosts came back to the earthly world, people thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes. To avoid being recognized by these ghosts, people would wear masks when they left their homes after dark so that the ghosts would mistake them for fellow spirits. On Halloween, to keep ghosts away from their houses, people would place bowls of food outside their homes to appease the ghosts and prevent them from attempting to enter.

## Pumpkins



Pumpkin carving is a popular part of modern America’s Halloween celebration. Come October, pumpkins can be found everywhere in the country from doorsteps to dinner tables. Despite the widespread carving that goes on in this country every autumn, few Americans

know why or when the jack o'lantern tradition began. Or, for that matter, whether the pumpkin is a fruit or a vegetable.

People have been making jack o'lanterns at Halloween for centuries. The practice originated from an Irish myth about a man nicknamed "Stingy Jack." According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form.

Jack eventually freed the Devil under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul.

The next year Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.

Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the earth with it ever since. The Irish began to refer to his ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."

In Ireland and Scotland, people began to make their own versions of Jack's lanterns by carving scary faces into turnips or potatoes and placing them into windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering evil spirits. In England, large beets were used. Immigrants from these countries

brought the jack o'lantern tradition with them when they came to the United States. They soon found that pumpkins, a fruit native to America, made perfect jack o'lanterns.

\* \* \*

## Safe Halloween Treats

Coins stand out from the ton of normal candy treats that children receive -- and they're great for parents who worry about safety in edible treats.

So what is a good coin treat? That's where you may have to think out of the box and also be mindful of costs.

In this day and age, giving a penny for a treat is likely to warrant criticism and achieve the exact opposite results you intend. Your house could also receive a "treat later that night!

An old penny, like a wheat cent could be great, however you'll want to make sure the wheat cent somehow "pops" with notice through a coin holder or some other means.

Let the child know that it isn't just another new penny they see all the time, and is worth more than a penny. That may get them thinking more like a collector.

A Sacagawea gold dollar or a new Presidential \$1 coin would be a great idea too. Of course, depending on how many trick-or-treaters you get, this could get a bit expensive. You may want to think about state quarters or maybe smaller foreign coins.

Whatever you decide, have some fun with it. If you do, the trick-or-treater likely will too.

\* \* \*



## Coin Club Meetings

### **Barron County Coin Club**

Meets 7:00 p.m. the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

### **Chippewa Valley Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in the basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

### **Elgin IL Coin Club**

Meets at 7:30 1st Wednesday at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Don Cerny, PO Box 561, S. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph. 847-888-1449.

### **Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club**

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Phone 715-472-2002.

### **Fond du Lac Coin Club**

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

### **Fox Valley Coin Club**

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

### **Intl. Bank Note Society - Midwest Chapter**

Meets 1 p.m. at North Shore Library in Glendale.  
[www.mcfls.org/northshorelibrary](http://www.mcfls.org/northshorelibrary).

### **Kenosha Coin Club**

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

### **Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club**

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

### **Lake County Coin Club**

Meets 7:00 the 1st Tues. each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. (Alternate mtg. place at Gurnee Police Dept., 100 N. O'Plaine Rd.. Contact: George Efsen, 847-244-5160.

### **Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club**

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI.

### **Madison Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Community Meeting Room at Zimbrick Buick, 1601 W. Beltline Hwy. at Fish Hatchery intersection. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

### **Manitowoc Coin Club**

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

### **Milwaukee Numismatic Society**

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone 414-282-8128.  
[www.milwaukeeenumismaticssociety.com](http://www.milwaukeeenumismaticssociety.com).

### **Nicolet Coin Club**

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

### **Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month at the Masonic Temple, (lower level) 23 E Davenport St., Rhinelander. Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

### **Ozaukee Coin Club**

Meets 2nd Thursday at Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave., Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

### **Racine Numismatic Society**

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Sturtevant (across street from the old Amtrack Depot). Contact Bill Spencer 262-637-7766. (no July or Aug. mtg).

### **Richland Center Coin Club**

Meets 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Bowling Alley. No meetings June/July/August. Contact Larry Schlafer 608-279-1182.

### **Rockford Area Coin Club**

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

### **Sheboygan Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

### **South Shore Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966. [www.sscmke.org](http://www.sscmke.org).

### **Waukesha Coin Club**

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Ph: 262-542-5990. [www.waukeshacoinclub.com](http://www.waukeshacoinclub.com).

### **Wisconsin Valley Coin Club**

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Liberty Bell Coin Investments, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. (June, July, Aug. mtg 3rd Tue.) Contact Thad Strecker, 715-355-5437.

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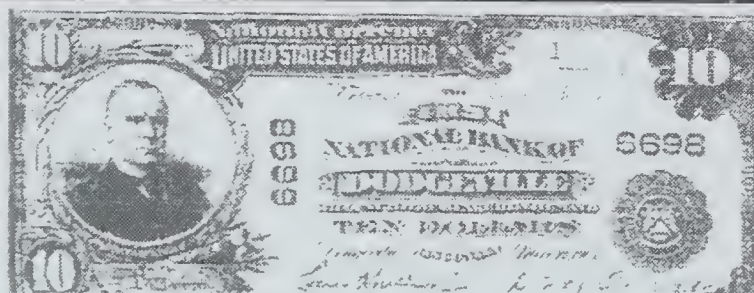
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

**September 13, 2009 - Countryside, IL**

West Suburban Coin & Collectibles Expo at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd., Contact: Kevin Wasmer, 630-399-9060.

**September 17-19, 2009 - Bloomington IL**

Illinois Numismatic Assoc. 50th annual fall coin show at Tinley Park Convention Center, 18501 So. Harlem Avenue. Contact Frank Zapushek, PO Box 1993, Bloomington, IL 61702-1993. Phone: 309-830-6765.

**September 20, 2009 - Rockford IL**

Rockford Area 106th Semi-Annual Coin Show at Hoffman House/Holiday Inn, 7550 E., State St., Rockford, IL. 58 tables. Contact Don Smith 815-624-0422.

**October 4, 2009 - Milwaukee**

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's annual coin show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 75 tables. \$1 admission. Show Chm. Tom Casper 414-425-5444. Bourse Chm. David Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

**October 11, 2009 - Countryside, IL**

West Suburban Coin & Collectibles Expo at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd. Contact: Kevin Wasmer Phone: 630-399-9060.

**October 16-18, 2009 - MOON**

Minnesota Organization of Numismatists annual coin show at Earle Brown Heritage Center, 6155 Earle Brown Drive. Contact: Lee Orr, PO Box 11685, St. Paul, MN 55111-0685. Phone: 612-747-2409.

**October 24, 2009 - Sheboygan Falls**

Sheboygan Coin Club's Coin Show at Sheboygan Falls Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 32 tables. Show Contact Ed Rautmann, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Phone: 920-893-5864.

**October 25, 2009 - Elgin IL**

Elgin Coin Club's 48th annual show at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Road, Elgin, IL. Hours: 9-3, 32 tables, Contact: Don Cerny, P.O. Box 561, So. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph: 847-888-1449.

**October 25, 2009 - Rochester, MN**

Annual Fall Rochester Area Coin & Stamp Show at LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 1625 S. Broadway. Chairman: Jerry Swanson Phone: 507-289-5099.

**October 25, 2009 - Gurnee, IL**

Indian Hill Coin Show at American Legion Post #771, 749 Milwaukee Ave. Hours: 9:30-3:00. Free admission. Contact Mike Hanninen Phone: 847-872-2725.

**October 31, 2009 - Rice Lake**

Barron County Coin Show at Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main St., Rice Lake. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair: Sue Peterson, PO Box 362, Rice Lake, WI 5486.

**November 6-7, 2009 - Indianapolis, IN**

Indiana State Numismatic Assoc. 51st annual show at Indianapolis Marriott, 7202 E. 21st St.. Contact: Joyce Fischer Phone: 765-649-0252.

**November 7, 2009 - Kenosha**

Kenosha Coin 51st Annual Show at the Kenosha Union Club, 3030 39th Ave., Kenosha, WI. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Contact Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653 (day) or 262-654-6272 (evenings)

**November 8, 2009 - Springfield, IL**

Central Illinois Numismatic Association's annual fall show at Northfield Center I, 3210 Northfield Dr., Contact: Steve Butler, 1712 S. First St., Springfield, IL 62704. Phone: 217-528-7634.

**November 8, 2009 - Countryside, IL**

West Suburban Coin & Collectibles Expo at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road. Contact: Kevin Wasmer. Phone: 630-399-9060.

**November 20-22, 2009 - Baltimore, MD**

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. [www.whitmanexpo.com](http://www.whitmanexpo.com).

**December 6, 2009 - Green Bay**

Nicolet Coin Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond Street, Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 39 tables. Bourse chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph. 920-819-7294.

**December 12-13, 2009 - Countryside IL**

West Suburban Coin & Collectible Expo at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road. Contact: Kevin Wasmer 630-399-9060.

**2010****February 28, 2010 - Franksville**

Racine Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 41/94 East Frontage Road, Franksville, WI. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Free admission; free parking. Contact Bill Spencer 262-637-7766.

**March 7, 2010 - Oshkosh**

Wisconsin Coin Expos, LLC Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Contact Randy Miller, PO 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Ph. 920-231-6161; FAX 920-231-6122.

**March 14, 2010 - Brookfield**

Waukesha Coin Club's annual show at the American Legion Post, 3245 N. 124th Street, Brookfield, WI. Show contact: Tom Snyder 262-542-5990.

**March 28, 2010 - Appleton**

Fox Valley Coin Club's 55th Annual Spring Show at Wave Bar (near Fox Cities Stadium), 2350 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, WI. Hours 9-4 p.m. 40 dealer tables. Show Contact: James Bayer, PO 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Ph. 920-739-1089.

**April 8-10, 2010 - Milwaukee**

South Shore Coin Show at the Wyndham Hotel Airport, 4747 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee. Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic on April 10. Show contact: Walter Weis 414-384-76966.

**April 11, 2010 - Madison**

Madison Coin Club's annual show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolan Drive, Madison. Hours: 9-4 p.m.. 50 tables. Contact Jim Essence, Jim's Coins, 702 N. Midvale, Madison, WI. Ph: 608-233-2118.

**April 28-May 1, 2010 - CSNS**

Central States 71st Anniversary. Contact Jerry Lebo 574-753-2489.

**May 21-22, 2010 - NOW**

Numismatists of Wisconsin 50th anniversary show at Iola, WI.

**August 11-15, 2010 - ANA**

American Numismatic Assoc. World's Fair of Money at Boston, MA. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

**2011****February 20, 2011 - Oshkosh**

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 28th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 pm. Contact Randy Miller, PO 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Phone: 920-231-6161. FAX: 920-231-6122.

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